

Rerouting district lines

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State lawmakers were in Shreveport last week on an educational redistricting tour.

Besides tallying the U.S. population, the census helps determine how certain government boundaries fall.

Louisiana senators and representatives are tasked with drawing their district lines. Each area should have roughly the same population to ensure residents are

represented equally.

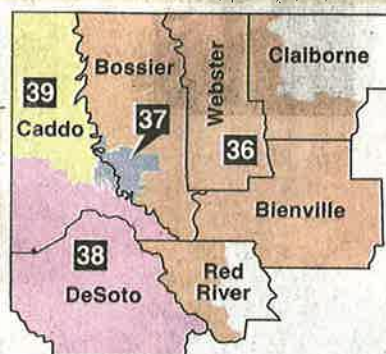
The state Legislature is slated to meet in a special session March 20 to April 13 just to rework these borders, along with those for Congress and the state Supreme Court, Public Service Commission and Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Here are the over-and-under figures for existing local districts in the state Senate and House of Representatives.

Senate districts

Total number of districts: 39 Ideal population: 116,240

	Actual population	Number over/under	Percentage over/under
39	119,479	3,239	2.79%
37	114,690	-1,550	-1.33%
36	120,165	3,925	3.38%
38	107,940	-8,300	-7.14%



House of Representatives districts

Total number of districts: 105 Ideal population: 43,174

	Actual population	Number over/under	Percentage over/under
1	44,917	1,743	4.037%
2	35,102	-8,072	-18.696%
3	39,035	-4,139	-9.587%
4	42,975	-199	-0.461%
5	47,695	4,521	10.472%
6	44,925	1,751	4.056%
7	44,017	843	1.953%
8	53,611	10,437	24.174%
9	45,914	2,740	6.346%
10	41,207	-1,967	-4.556%

